

entities already use one or more of the AHCPR guidelines. Other groups use the guidelines to improve their internal quality-improvement initiatives.

THE FUTURE

Like all scientific endeavors, there are no "quick fixes." In its first five years, AHCPR has demonstrated that it is a sound investment for the American taxpayer. In fiscal year 1994, AHCPR's annual operating budget of \$162 million represents only one fiftieth of one percent of the nation's \$900 billion health care spending. Indeed, all federal health services research activities combined accounted for only one twentieth of one percent of national health spending in 1994.

Federal and state legislators grappling with spiraling health care spending should be supporting health services research more than ever before. They need this knowledge to help them make sound decisions as new health delivery systems evolve.

Is federally-sponsored health services research still necessary? We believe the answer is yes, for at least three reasons:

1. In a market-based delivery system driven by provider competition and consumer choice, the information AHCPR generates is essential—especially to the doctor-patient relationship. Health services research also enables us to study the impact of these delivery changes on quality and access as the public and private sectors struggle to contain health care costs.

2. AHCPR-funded research provides the economies of scale that can only occur with a comprehensive national study. Both public and private groups benefit from having this information in the public domain. The federal government's willingness to provide "seed money" stimulates private sector research initiatives and magnifies the applicability of the results.

3. AHCPR acts as an "honest broker" in developing the science of health services research. The Agency's authorizing legislation does not allow it to regulate the health care industry, it is not empowered to act as a payer of health care services, and it does not administer a health program. Therefore, it is free from conflicts of interest.

It is appropriate for the government to have a role in building and sustaining the knowledge base that can meet the information needs of a market-driven health care system. Indeed, AHCPR-funded guidelines are often viewed as the "gold standard" of guidelines, and are frequently customized by private entities. For example, UCLA Medical Center, Kaiser-Permanente—Anaheim Medical Center and Saint Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri are among the many facilities that have utilized AHCPR's acute pain management guideline.

These findings have acted like a beacon, they show policy makers in advance where problems are developing and provide alternatives for helping to solve these problems. The creation of AHCPR has improved the quality of health care delivered in this country by facilitating health services research and disseminating the results to the public. At the same time, it has proved to be an extremely sound investment for American taxpayers.

THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF FREDERICK, MARYLAND

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I would like to call to the attention of our colleagues celebrations that are underway to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the city of Frederick, MD. The mayor of Frederick, Jim Grimes, along with the

entire community, has planned several significant events to commemorate this propitious milestone.

Throughout its history, Frederick has served not only as a monument to Marylanders, but it has also carved its place in American history as well. Established in 1745, Frederick Town was the home of many great colonial Americans including Francis Scott Key, author of "The Star Spangled Banner"; Roger Taney, second Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; and John Hanson, President of the Continental Congress.

The English and German settlers of Frederick Town were ferociously proud of the independence and the liberty they found in the New World. When the British passed the Stamp Act in 1785 requiring colonists to purchase stamps for all legal and commercial documents, 12 Frederick County judges resolved to reject the Stamp Act and approved the usage of unstamped documents. This bold maneuver is believed to be the first recorded act of rebellion in the colonies.

According to several historians, it was in Frederick Town, not St. Louis, where Lewis and Clark began their famed expedition across the unexplored Nation. In July 1803, the travelers set forth from the Hessian Barracks in Frederick Town across the unchartered west and into the unknown territory.

Frederick Town was incorporated as a city in 1817, thus officially changing its name to Frederick. In the early 1800's, construction of the B&O Railroad and the C&O Canal began. The establishment of these two major avenues of transportation opened a window to the world for the citizens of Frederick. These corridors to Washington and Baltimore would provide access to jobs, to industry, and to trade.

But in 1864, Frederick was faced with grave despair. Under the threat of General Jubal Early's torch, city officials had to secure \$200,000 in loans from local banks to save Frederick. Three of the five original banks that contributed to that ransom are still open for business.

Over the course of the next century, Frederick would mature into a thriving and continuously expanding community. It is the home of a wide spectrum of facilities that include Fort Detrick, high-tech firms that are instrumental in AIDS research, the Frederick Keys baseball team, Hood College and Frederick Community College. And although Frederick is the third largest city in Maryland, it still maintains its small town charm and charisma.

Frederick is a model of community spirit and cooperation. The activities that have been sponsored to commemorate this auspicious occasion exemplify the deep devotion of Frederick's residents to their community. The spirit and enthusiasm of Frederick's citizens have been the foundation of its success. These celebrations provide the opportunity to renew the dedication that has supported Frederick throughout its history and helped it to develop into

one of Maryland's most attractive communities.

We in Maryland are fortunate to have an area as community-oriented as Frederick. I join the citizens of Frederick in sharing their pride in Frederick's past and optimism for continued success in the years to come.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and treaties which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 11, 1995, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2161. An act to extend authorities under the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994 until October 1, 1995, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the enrolled bill was signed on August 11, 1995, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 18, 1995, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 535. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Corning National Fish Hatchery to the State of Arkansas.

H.R. 584. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey a fish hatchery to the State of Iowa.

H.R. 614. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Minnesota the New London National Fish Hatchery production facility.

H.R. 1225. An act to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt employees who perform certain court reporting duties from the compensatory time requirements applicable to certain public agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2077. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 33 College Avenue in Waterville, Maine, as the "George J. Mitchell Post Office Building".

H.R. 2108. An act to permit the Washington Convention Center Authority to expend revenues for the operation and maintenance of